



**NORFOLK
SOUTHERN**

Norfolk Southern Corporation
Environmental Protection
110 Franklin Road, S.E.
Roanoke, Virginia 24042-0013

AB-290 (SUB-No. 253x)

#E1-813
R9

USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service
Strom Thurmond Federal Building
1835 Assembly Street, Room 950
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

May 12, 2004

received 5/17/04

Subject: Norfolk Southern Railway Company Proposed Main Line Abandonment of 4.50 Miles of Rail Line Located between Milepost AB-1.5 and Milepost AB-6.0 from Escambia Jct. to Trenton, SC

Dear Sir or Madam:

Norfolk Southern plans to file an application with the Surface Transportation Board (STB) seeking authority to abandon rail service from MP AB-1.5 to MP AB-6.0 (Escambia Jct to Trenton, SC) in Edgefield County, South Carolina. Attached is an Environmental Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental effects, as well as a map of the affected area.

We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental analysis of the proceeding. If you believe any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you think pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the Board's Environmental Review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Room 3219, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington DC 20423, Telephone (202) 565-1538 and refer to the above Docket. Because applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments (with a copy to us) would be appreciated within three weeks.

Your comments will be considered by the Board in evaluating the environmental impacts of the contemplated action. In order for us to consider your input we must receive your comments as soon as possible. Additionally, someone from my office will contact you next week to inquire about any comments you may have. Please either provide a copy of your comments by mail at the address shown on this letterhead or provide information by telephone to Mr. Larry Western at (540) 981-4239.

Sincerely,

K. R. Miller
Director Environmental Operations

Attachment

CC: L. G. Western, NSR
J. R. Paschall, NSR
J. M. Lipps, NSR
R. Ghosh, STB